

## Readings for this Sunday and Questions for Discussion

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

Key Passage: Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God."

Adult: In what way are you serving the poor, as Jesus did?

Child: When have you helped bring God's love to someone who was sad, or hungry, or whom others made fun of?

**LIVING STEWARDSHIP***Our generosity can transform us into people who reflect the glory of God.***Saturday**4:00 pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniv. For *Mitch Liberis* requested by the Family  
Anniv. For *Euphamie & Everiste LaMarche* and  
Anniv for *Jeanne & Phillippe LaMarche* requested by  
the Family**Sunday Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**7:30 a.m. Memorial for *Dennis Sabonaitis* requested by Sisters  
& FriendsMemorial for *Mary Ann Bernhard* requested by  
Her Daughter10:30 a.m. 39<sup>th</sup> Anniv for *Rev. John Finn* requested by the Parish**Monday** 7:45 am Morning Prayer8:00 a.m. Memorial for *Yvonne Ushinski* requested by Betty  
Kelly**Tuesday** 7:45 am Morning Prayer8:00 a.m. *Mass***WEDNESDAY ASH WEDNESDAY**

7:45 am Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. *Mass with Blessed Ashes*8:30 a.m. - 3:00 pm **Eucharistic Devotion**4:00 p.m. **Liturgy of the Word with Blessed Ashes**7:00 pm **Mass with Blessed Ashes****Thursday** 7:45 morning8:00 a.m. *Deceased Family Members of Parishioners*  
*Richard Coulter, Father of Patrick Coulter***Next Saturday**3:15 pm **Stations of the Cross**3:30 pm **Pro-Life Rosary**4:00 pm 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv. For *Dennis Wrenn* requested by the Family**Next Sunday First Sunday of Lent**7:30 a.m. 6<sup>th</sup> Anniv. For *Joan Young* requested by the Family10:30 a.m. Memorial for *Leon Mackowiak* requested by  
Deacon Nick & Sandy**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY  
FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup> IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS' DAY****STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE***Father, accept these, the gifts of your people. We return  
this portion of your many blessings to us so that the work  
of your Son, Jesus, might continue in our parish home.***Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time** 5,629.00**Monthly** 1,221.00**6,850.00****(Parish tithes to charity 5% 281.45)**

209 Adult Envelopes 5,389.00

Loose Cash 240.00

**LATIN AMERICA COLLECTION****NEXT WEEKEND****A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM FRED**

With exactly four months to go before I'm ordained, I am attending my canonical retreat this weekend. Five years ago, as I started Formation, I was barely aware of this requirement – but became aware that it was essentially the last milestone along the way towards 'the big day'. So many experiences and other milestones are now in my rear view mirror with ordination literally straight ahead.

Fr. Ray asked that I put an article in the bulletin this weekend for a couple of reasons. One was just to sort of make you aware that I wasn't playing hooky (just kidding, I think ☺), and the other was to share with you some of the things I've been up to in my internship.

As an installed Acolyte my role around the Sanctuary has been to observe and sort of learn the ropes. I have been serving the altar and working with and thoroughly enjoying getting to know our Altar Servers, as well as the styles of Fr. Ray and Fr. Bonnie. You may or may not know that as an Acolyte there are rules in what I'm allowed to do (and not), and so if you've noticed any difference in my presence there from what you were used to with Deacon Nick, this is most likely why.

Away from Mass, I've mostly been attending various meetings as able, learning more and more about the makeup of the parish and gaining a greater appreciation for this stewardship community. I've also met with and trained some new Ministers of Holy Communion and had a great meeting with our lectors to discuss a wide range of topics from training to bringing on more new lectors. I've also been working with some of our more technically geared parishioners (both here and St. Philip's) to discuss 'next steps' in our web presence and how we might leverage that technology to evangelize and get the story of St. Mary's 'out there'. Most recently I was even able to assist at a funeral Mass and committal. I shared with my wife, and I will share with you, that I am feeling my formal ministry beginning to take shape versus being someone 'in training'.

This is all, of course, while balancing the demands of home and work life – not to mention classes. Just so you know, my ordination is scheduled for June 12<sup>th</sup>, but my last official class isn't until June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Looking forward, you will undoubtedly notice an evolution in my presence both at Mass and away, but most obvious might be as I begin subjecting you all to reflections on the Sunday readings, which is effectively a segue for when I will actually join the rotation here when it comes to homilies. Preaching is a faculty I will receive at ordination, and my internship includes these reflections to help me hone those skills and ensure that this faculty is well exercised.

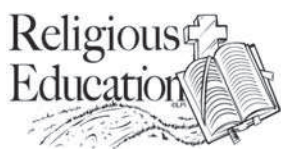
It is my hope and prayer that this broad exposure to all things St. Mary's will help you and me determine where my talents and abilities might best be served as your Deacon, which I look forward to with great expectations.

Peace, Fred

**Celebrate St. Patrick's with Dismas House and The Chieftains****At the Hanover Theatre, on March 9<sup>th</sup>**

A night of good food, good company and great music! Please join Dismas House in celebrating St. Patrick's with six-time Grammy winners, The Chieftains. Enjoy cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres 6-7pm and the Concert at 7pm. Enjoy Celtic music and raise money for a GREAT CAUSE! For more information and/or tickets go to [www.dismashouse.org](http://www.dismashouse.org) (a secure website) or call 508-799-9389. A portion of your ticket purchase price is tax deductible.

## SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### Class Schedule

Classes will not be held for the weekends of Feb. 14/15 and Feb. 20/21 due to the school vacation. It has been our policy to cancel classes for both weekends of a vacation. This has helped out attendance.

### First Eucharist

Reminder: There will be a guest speaker for all parents on Tuesday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 pm at St. Philip Church.

### Souper Bowl of Caring

Due to your generosity last weekend, \$372 will be sent to the Grafton Food Bank. Thank you for your generosity.

### First Eucharist

Reminder: There will be a guest speaker for all parents on Tuesday, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 pm at St. Philip Church.

### Mother Son Game Night



### 24 Hour Famine

Presently, we have 18 students in grades 9 & 10 who have chosen to fast for 24 hours, to get a taste of hunger and to raise money to help feed and care for hungry kids and their families around the world. For more info, go to the website, [www.30hourfamine.org](http://www.30hourfamine.org). The famine will be held here on March 12-13 for 24 hours. Your help is needed! **Pray:** ask God to bless our teens as they go without food so others can eat. **Participate:** helpers are needed for this event. **Give:** support our teens' fundraising efforts – every \$30 can help feed and care for one child for a month. Speak with Sr. Yvonne for more info.

### Come Home to God's Mercy

This is the title of Bishop McManus' Pastoral Letter on Penance given to us as we enter into Lent. Priest throughout the Diocese will be celebrating the Sacrament of Penance each Tuesday during Lent from 7:00pm-8:30 pm. Here at St Mary, we will begin each Tuesday with Evening Prayer at 6:40 pm followed by Mass at 7:00 pm. After Mass, I will be available for Confessions. I have personally come to know the forgiveness of Jesus in my life in this Sacrament of Penance. As your Brother and Priest, I am here for you. All are welcome, Fr. Ray.

**P.S. copies of Bishop McManus' Pastoral letter can be found in the Gathering Space**

### LENTEN NEWS

#### ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE, February 17th

8:00 a.m. Mass with Blessed Ashes  
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration  
**12 (noon) St Philip's Church: Liturgy of the Word with Blessed Ashes**  
4:00 p.m. St. Mary's Church: Liturgy of the Word with Blessed Ashes  
7:00 p.m. Mass with Blessed Ashes  
Stations of the Cross will be held Saturdays at 3:15p.m. during Lent  
6:40 pm Evening Prayer  
7 pm Mass on Tuesday Evenings followed by Confessions during Lent

### LENTEN REGULATIONS

#### GUIDELINES FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows:

**Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

**Fasting** is to be observed by all Catholics who eighteen (18) years are of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

### PLEASE READ - PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN

St. Mary's Parish follows the guidelines of the national Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People approved by the bishops, and the policies of the Diocese of Worcester by screening those who work with children in our care and in helping victims of abuse find healing. If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a Church employee or volunteer in the past, please contact Frances Nugent, Victim Services Coordinator for our diocese, at 508-929-4363 (direct line & confidential voicemail). If you are concerned about a current case of abuse, please contact the local civil authorities immediately.

*FEBRUARY 14, 2010*



**FOR NEXT WEEKEND– February 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Saturday**

**4:00 pm**

**Lector:** Jim Pulaski

**Ministers of Holy Communion** Julie Koss-Stephany, Marilyn Chard, Tracey Harger

**Altar Servers:** Nicholas Fritz, Ralph, Annie & John Paul Melanson

**Sunday**

**7:30 a.m.**

**Lector:** John Harrison

**Ministers of Holy Communion** Karen Catalanotti, Nancy Malone, Steve Roney

**Altar Servers:** Brenton & Joc Caldwell, Alexander & Alanna Patch

**10:30 am**

**Lector:** Marie Ouellette

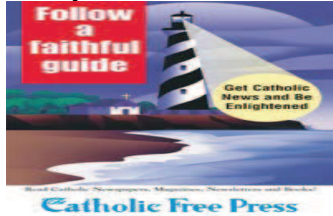
**Ministers of Holy Communion:** Laura Deschenes, Sharon Doane, Roland Parent

**Altar Servers:** Amy Tellier, Martha Walters, Ryan Fennell, Melanie Dadah



<b>Feb. 16 Tues 7 pm</b>	Finance Committee	Conf Rm
<b>Feb. 23 Tues 7 pm</b>	Rel. Ed Board Mtg	Conf Rm
<b>March. 2 Tues 7 pm</b>	Pro-Life	Kitchen
<b>March 3 Wed. 7pm</b>	Stewardship Mtg	Conf Rm
<b>March 4 Thurs. 1 pm</b>	Rosary Makers	Hall

*February is Catholic Press Month*



**Our parish is allocated 271 subscriptions. We ask you to consider renewing or taking a subscription this year. You will find in your February packet of envelopes, one for the Catholic Free Press. As a parish, we continue to be responsible for the allocated bill whether or not we have the subscribers. This year can you take a subscription so we can at the least break even? Get the Catholic view on issues.**

**YOU CAN SAVE A LIFE TODAY!**

This spring, from February 17 – March 28, our community will be one of more than 212 in 40 states joining together for the largest and longest coordinated pro-life mobilization in history...the 40 Days for Life Campaign.

We are praying that, with God's help, this groundbreaking effort will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in Worcester, MA and throughout the world.

Please check the bulletin insert for how you can help save a life today! [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com)